

Message Text

SECRET

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12-12

ACTION ACDA-10

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OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

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S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0515

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES
OF NOVEMBER 4, 1975

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN THE NOVEMBER 4, 1975 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS, THE ALLIES WERE REPRESENTED BY THE NETHERLANDS REP, UK REP AND US REP, AND THE EAST BY SOVIET REPS KHLESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY, CZECHOSLOVAK REP LAHODA, AND POLISH REP DABROWA. THE SESSION DEVELOPED NO NEW PERSPECTIVES. EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES ACCUSED THE WEST OF HAVING DEPARTED FROM AGREEMENTS REACHED IN THE PREPARATORY TALKS. THEY REPEATEDLY ASKED WHEN NON-US WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WOULD UNDERTAKE SPECIFIC REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS AND HOW EASTCOULD JUSTIFY ITS FAILURE TO INCLUDE ARMAMENTS IN WESTERN REDUCTION PROPOSALS. WESTERN

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REPS STATED THAT THE EAST WAS MAKING EXAGGERATED AND SELF-

SERVING INTERPRETATIONS OF THE DECISIONS REACHED IN THE TALKS AND SHOWED HOW WESTERN PROPOSALS CONFORMED TO THESE DECISIONS.

2. CZECHOSLOVAK REP LED OFF WITH STATEMENT ACCUSING WEST OF DEPARTING FROM AGREED COMMUNIQUE. HE SAID OVERT WESTERN EFFORTS THROUGH WESTERN REDUCTION PROPOSALS TO CHANGE THE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE WERE A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS IN THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS. NETHERLANDS REP REFUTED EASTERN CLAIMS THAT WEST WAS DEPARTING FROM PRINCIPLES AGREED IN THE PREPARATORY TALKS. HE POINTED OUT THAT EASTERN CLAIMS THAT WEST WAS DEPARTING FROM PRINCIPLES AGREED IN THE PREPARATORY TALKS WERE BASELESS AND THAT EASTERN INTERPRETATION OF PREPARATORY TALK DECISIONS WAS EXAGGERATED AND ONE-SIDEDLY IN FAVOR OF EAST.

3. KHLESTOV REPEATEDLY PUT QUESTIONS AS TO WHEN NON-US WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WOULD INDICATE THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT SPECIFIC REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS AND HOW WEST COULD JUSTIFY EXCLUSION OF ARMAMENTS FROM WESTERN REDUCTION PROPOSALS AND RETURNED TO THIS AT END OF SESSION. UK REP SUMMARIZED WESTERN CASE FOR PHASING AND DESCRIBED SEVERAL MOVES WEST HAD MADE DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS TO RESPOND TO EASTERN CONCERNS ABOUT PHASING. KHLESTOV AGAIN CRITICIZED WESTERN INTERPRETATION OF DOCUMENTS AGREED DURING PREPARATORY TALKS. NETHERLANDS REP REFUTED THESE POINTS. POLISH REP STATED THAT REFUSAL OF NON-US WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO UNDERTAKE SPECIFIC REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS WAS THE MAJOR OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS IN THE TALKS. US REP STRESSED EQUITABLE NATURE OF WESTERN PROPOSALS WHEN CONSIDERED FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THEIR OUTCOME.

4. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE NEXT SESSION SHOULD DEAL WITH FORCE DEFINITIONS. END SUMMARY. RESOR

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